

8th grade English

Vocab List #6: PSSA Argumentative Terms

1. accuracy - correctness or precision
2. analysis - the act of studying or examining something in detail in order to discover more about it
3. argument - reason or reasons why you support or oppose an idea, or the process of explaining them
4. assertion - declaration, statement, allegation or claim
5. debate - to discuss a subject in a formal way; a serious discussion in which many people take part
6. debatable - not clear, not certain, not fixed; having more than one side
7. editorial - newspaper or magazine article that gives an opinion
8. evaluate - to judge or calculate the quality, importance, amount or value of something
9. fact - something which is known to have happened or to exist, especially something for which proof exists, or about which there is information
10. generalization - conclusion, drawn from information, used to make broad statement
11. logic - a particular way of thinking, especially one which is reasonable and based on good judgment
12. opinion - a thought or belief about something or someone
13. opposition - strong disagreement
14. persuasion - trying to convince someone to think or act a certain way
15. point of view *or viewpoint* - an opinion or a way of considering something
16. pro/con - pros are the benefits/advantages of something; cons are the drawbacks/disadvantages
17. reading critically - questioning the text; giving opinions or judgments on what is read rather than simply accepting it as true or valid
18. reasoning - the process of thinking about something in order to make a decision
19. rebuttal - a statement which says that something is not true
20. reliable sources - sources of information that come from widely respected and trusted people or institutions; trustworthy information
21. rhetoric - the art of speaking and writing effectively
22. statistics - information based on a study of the number of times something happens or is present or other numerical facts; a fact in the form of a number
23. support - to help to show something to be true
24. thesis - the main idea, opinion, or theory of a piece of writing or speech
25. validity - based on truth or reason; able to be accepted